

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8; add new claim 9; and cancel claims 1, 3, and 7 as set forth in the listing of claims that follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A pyromechanical fastening ~~Fastening~~ element according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 9, characterised in that the head portion of the shell is formed so that it is conical.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) A pyromechanical fastening ~~Fastening~~ element according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 9, characterised in that the adapter is embedded in the shell with press fit.
5. (Currently Amended) A pyromechanical fastening ~~Fastening~~ element according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 9, characterised in that the pyrotechnic propellant charge can be ignited-by means of the punctiform heat source.
6. (Currently Amended) A pyromechanical fastening ~~Fastening~~ element according to claim 5, characterised in that the heat source is a laser beam of a laser.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A pyromechanical fastening ~~Fastening~~ element according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, characterised in that adjacently to the second structural part a floating disc is slid onto the adapter as a counter bearing further comprising a floating disc slid onto the head of the fastening element, wherein said floating disc is adapted to be located adjacent to the second structural part to serve as a counter bearing.

9. (New) A pyromechanical fastening element for mechanically connecting a first and a second structural part in an unremovable and fixed manner, said first structural part comprising an opening having a diameter, said second structural part having an opening registering with the opening, said pyromechanical fastening element comprising,

a metallic shell having a head portion and a rear portion having an open end, said rear portion having a diameter sized to be received in the opening of the first structural part and adapted to form a flange for engaging a surface of the first structural part opposite the second structural part, said head portion having fracture notches that extend longitudinally to facilitate ripping of the shell;

a pyrotechnic propellant charge disposed within the head portion; and

an adapter disposed within the shell between the head portion and the rear portion, said adapter having a diameter greater than the diameter of the rear portion and being exposed through the open end of the rear portion for heating by a punctiform heat source.